



Victoria P. Morrow, President

February 26, 2010

President's Report to the Board of Trustees

I presented my monthly report to the Board of Trustees Wednesday night. It is available at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/index.html>. This week I would like to highlight several actions by the board that night:

- The board honored Pat Carter and the other three classified staff nominated by the colleges and the district office for the state **Board of Governors (BOG) Classified Employee of the Year Award**. They named the person they selected to be **their nominee to the state board: Patricia Carter!** The BOG will announce their choices at the early May meeting. Please join me in congratulating Pat!



Photo by Chris Case

- The board recognized **Larry Franzella**, who is retiring from his role as mayor of San Bruno and member of the city council. He has been a great friend to Skyline, was a long-term member of the President's Council and is now a member of the President's Council Advisory Board.



Photo by Vicki Morrow

- Along with the chancellor and the other two college presidents, I presented the Skyline **budget reduction proposal for the year 2010-11** and the board approved the proposal. As you know from an earlier edition of this newsletter, the proposal was the same one the CBC recommended, with one change. The board indicated that they were willing for some non-general fund money to be used to provide the subsidy to the Children's Center. That money will come from Redevelopment Agency funds which the district receives and has usually dedicated to the repair and upgrading of outdoor facilities. You may recall that our athletic fields were renovated by means of that funding source. As a result, the amount we would have spent on the CDC can be redirected temporarily to ease our cut to the summer schedule from 50 percent down to a 30 percent reduction.
- The board moved forward with an plan to put a proposal for a **parcel tax** on the June ballot. It would be for \$34 per year for four years, exempting seniors. There will be a public hearing at the board meeting on March 10.

Flex Days coming March 10-12

You heard it from Nina Floro earlier this week; here is her latest:

Though there will be quite a variety of workshops available during our March Flex Days, we will offer workshops under 3 primary strands—teaching strategies, student services/success, and employee wellness. Teaching strategies workshops will include alternative modes of assessment, first day practices, self assessment, and teaching/learning styles. Workshops on yoga/meditation, emergency preparedness, and foot are among those that will be offered as part of the employee wellness strand. Also, the area of student success will feature workshops about the new Sparkpoint Center, other student services areas, and autism/aspergers, among others. There are other workshops not yet listed among these, and people will, of course, have the usual option of engaging in SLOAC workshops/assessments. Added to these sessions, PEDAC and SLOAC will once again welcome all Skyline employees to the first day of Flex (Wednesday, 3/10) by hosting a gourmet lunch at noon, catered by Tiffany Bloom Caterers. The lunch will include both meat and vegetarian option gourmet sandwiches, pasta/fruit/caesar salads, as well as cookies for dessert.

Campus power to be shut down April 3-11 for upgrading

I sent out a college wide message earlier this week, but I think this is a message that bears repeating, so here goes again:

As you may have heard, the college's electrical power grid is about to be upgraded in collaboration with Pacific Gas and Electric. The work will take place during the college during spring break, April 3-11, because that worked best for the college and for PG&E. There are fewer

classes held during that week, and faculty and students generally are not on campus. We know that many of the classified employees may have to work, and we will relocate staff to either CSM or the District Office for the Monday-Friday period. No one will be permitted to work in offices on the Skyline main campus, nor Loma Chica and Pac Heights. If any classified staff would rather take vacation and/or compensatory time off, it would help minimize disruption of work and we encourage you to do so.

In an effort to plan for the electrical shutdown, we would appreciate it if all classified staff would **let your supervisor know by March 5** what your plans are for work during the Monday-Friday period of April 5-9 so that we can plan for alternate work locations.

Thanks in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

Please urge your students to take advantage of their registration dates

Registration for summer and fall 2010 begins on April 28 for continuing students. Students will be notified of their particular registration dates, as usual, but I would appreciate your help in urging them to take advantage of those dates. That way they will maximize their chance of getting the classes they want. The Summer Schedule will be available online approximately March 1st, and the Fall Schedule approximately, April 1st. The printed copies will follow by a couple of weeks in each case.

Learning to advocate in relation to community college funding: ASSCTeach-in

The Associated Students of Skyline College prepared a stimulating and informative series of panels for students, presented last Wednesday in Building 6. Here is a shot of the Q&A following the panel presented by Masao Susuki, Kathy Blackwood, Ray Hernandez and Eloisa Briones.



Photo by Caroline Ocampo

Save the Date – benefit concert for Haiti Earthquake Relief

The Haiti Now Taskforce's lecture last week was made by Leslie Fleming, Merritt College anthropologist, to a packed house in Room 2306, as you can see from the photo below. The Taskforce is making plans for a benefit concert to be held in two weeks, on Saturday, March 13 at 6:30 pm in the Theater. It will feature the neo-soul group *Tone 7*, led by our own Tony Jackson. The group will be donating their talent. Also performing as the opening act and donating their time (no travel fees) is the dance group *For the Love of Art*. Tickets are \$15 in advance /\$25 at the door. For additional information check out the Haiti Now Taskforce facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&gid=298531483970> or contact Haiti Now Taskforce co-chairs Rakefet Avramovitz at 650-738-4122, or John Saenz (650) 738-7019. The first photo is by Caroline Ocampo; the second is from a Tone 7 album cover.



Skyline Shines Award call for nominations: due April 30

The Skyline Shines Award, now in its fifth year, is designed to recognize individuals or groups who help Skyline to shine in terms of its quality of programs and services and its reputation for quality. Two awards are made annually, one to a member or group of the Skyline employees and one to a member or group from the community. **Nominations must be made by 4:30 pm on Friday, April 30** using the official Nomination Form (at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/index.html> under "Skyline Shines Awards"). The nominations must describe the ways in which nominee(s) help the college live up to the college's values (the criteria are included with the form). Nominations should be sent to Linda Bertellotti, Assistant to the President. They may be mailed, faxed (650-738-4338), or emailed to bertellottil@smccd.edu. The address is:

Linda Bertellotti, President's Office
Skyline College
3300 College Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066

Criteria for the award: The awardees would be those who most help the college live up to the college's values:

Campus Climate

We value a campus-wide climate that reflects a 'students first philosophy' with mutual

respect among all constituencies and appreciation for diversity. Both instruction and student services are dedicated to providing every student with an avenue to success.

Open Access

We are committed to the availability of quality educational programs and services for every member of our community regardless of level of preparation, socio-economic status, cultural, religious or ethnic background, or disability. We are committed to providing students with open access to programs and services that enable them to advance steadily toward their goals.

Academic Excellence

We value excellence in all aspects of our mission as a comprehensive community college offering preparation for transfer to a baccalaureate institution, workforce and economic development through vocational programs and certificates, Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees, and lifelong learning. We are committed to academic rigor and quality with relevant, recent, and evolving curriculum and well-equipped programs that include new and emerging areas of study. We are dedicated to providing education in a climate that values innovation and freedom of intellectual exploration, discovery, thought, and exchange of ideas for all.

Community Connection

We value a deep engagement with the community we serve and our role as an academic and cultural center for business, industry, labor, non-profits, government and the arts.

Shared Governance

We value just, fair, inclusive, and well-understood governance processes based upon open and honest communication.

Context: The awards will be made on the college's Opening Day, in August 2010.

Process for selecting awardees:

- College employee or group: awardee selected by the President in consultation with the College Council.
- Community member or group: awardee selected by the President in consultation with the President's Council Executive Committee.

President's Innovation Fund proposals are due April 30

It is also time for President's Innovation Fund proposals to be germinating. If you are interested in submitting a proposal for 2010-11, **the deadline this year is Friday, April 30, 4:30 pm** in the President's Office. The guidelines and the proposal form are on the college website at:

<http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/index.html> (under President's Innovation Fund).

There are now 112 California Community Colleges

The Chancellor's Office for the California Community Colleges has announced that two additional colleges have now joined the system. Formerly campuses of Riverside City College, Norco and Moreno Valley are now separately accredited as Norco College and Moreno Valley College. So the California Community Colleges now include **112 colleges serving 2.9 million students**.

Skyline Financial Aid Office presents at Cash for College Events

Skyline's Financial Aid Office presented at the Cash for College Events at Jefferson High School on February 2 and South San Francisco High School on February 20. Over 150 students and their parents attended the events. They were sponsored by the California Student Aid Commission, the Office of Assembly Member Jerry Hill, the South San Francisco Unified School District and the Jefferson Union High School District. The workshops were free and open to the public and offered students and parents hands-on financial aid assistance, including help to complete the financial aid forms necessary to apply for Cal Grants. High school seniors who attended a workshop and who apply for a Cal Grant by the March 2 deadline can qualify for an extra \$1,000 scholarship to be used at a qualifying institution next fall. Thank you to Maria Escobar, Director of Financial Aid, for conducting the Spanish workshop at Jefferson High School and to Jocelyn Vila, Program Services Coordinator, for coordinating and presenting at both events. Also, thank you to Financial Aid Campus Ambassadors, Jorge Murillo and Stephanie Nale. Jorge and Stephanie did an exceptional job in preparing the necessary materials and

assisting guests at the event. In the first photo are instructors, staff and volunteers from South San Francisco High School and in the second are Jerry Hill with Financial Aid Campus Ambassadors, Jorge Murillo and Stephanie Nale.



Photos by Jocelyn Vila

College Council update

The College Council met on Wednesday, February 24. A summary of the meeting is provided below. The previous minutes are archived at

<http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/GovCommittees/collegecouncil/index.html>.

1. **District Shared Governance Committee (DSGC) update:** Ray Hernandez, Academic Senate President, provided an update on the DSGC discussions of the review of the district's resources allocation model which is under way and on the process being used for the regular review the "delineation of functions" document required by the accrediting commission.
2. **Budget update:** Vicki Morrow, President, indicated that the board of trustees would be taking action February 24 on the budget reduction proposals submitted by the chancellor and the three college presidents. (See above for the report on that action.)
3. **Accreditation:** Ray Hernandez described the proposed process for preparation of the Midterm Report due to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges in October. The College Council approved the timeline and approach.
4. **Haiti Now Task Force update:** Rakefet Avramovitz, Classified Council President, reported on the work of the task force, a group formed by the classified staff, the faculty, the students and the administration, to raise funds for Haiti relief. She described plans being made for a fundraising event to be held on Saturday, March 13, in the Theater. It will include a concert which will be sponsored by the Associated Students. She also indicated that there may be a panel on Haitian history presented on March 9.
5. **ASSC Teach in:** The council discussed the teach-in panels on the community college budget crisis which had been presented earlier in the day and commented on the high quality of the presentations. The group also discussed ways to improve dissemination of information to students.
6. **Next meeting:** March 24.

College Budget Committee (CBC) update

The College Budget Committee met on Thursday, February 25, co-chaired by Director of Business Services Eloisa Briones and Academic Senate President Raymond Hernandez. A summary of the meeting is provided below. Previous minutes are archived at

<http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/GovCommittees/collegebudgetcommittee/index.html>.

- 1. District Committee on Budget and Finance (DCBF) Report:** Barbara Lamson gave the CBC a thorough report on the two DCBF meetings that were held since CBC met on January 28. At the Feb. 2nd meeting, Chief Financial Officer Kathy Blackwood gave DCBF a budget update similar to the one she did at CBC's January 28 meeting. Barbara reported the Feb. 16th meeting discussions around the review of the resource allocation model to assess its effectiveness and determine ways to improve it. Similar discussions will be held at Chancellor's Council and the District Strategic Planning Committee. Some of the resource allocation line items that the district committee will be analyzing include the division of FTES goals among the colleges, dollar cost per FTES (Full Time Equivalent Students) and FTE (Full-time Equivalent Employee), and funding high cost programs. Some committee members have suggested that a provision be made in the resource allocation to support categoricals, especially because of the drastic cuts to funding these programs. Kathy Blackwood also advised the committee of the plan to distribute costs to the sites, such as benefits and utilities, which are currently carried under Central Services, to better depict the total cost of operations of each site.
- 2. Report on February 24th Board Meeting:** President Vicki Morrow had earlier reported that she accepted CBC's budget reductions recommendation for 2010-11 and presented this to the board during its retreat. The board had reservations about the size of the recommended cuts to summer and the non-inclusion of the elimination of the Child Care Center in the list of proposed reduction strategies. In the end, district staff recommended shifting the district's cost of subsidizing Skyline CDC's employee benefits from the general unrestricted fund to redevelopment funds since these can be used for community-based functions. This will allow Skyline to keep the CDC open for the next two years and give the college time to turn the CDC into a self-sufficient operation. If it is not viable by then, the Center will be closed. This amendment resulted in a positive change to Skyline's reduction strategies in that the college will be able to reduce summer offerings by 30%, instead of 50%. At the Feb. 24th meeting, the board accepted Skyline's recommended budget reduction strategies, along with the district office, CSM and Canada.
- 3. Productivity Report:** Skyline has surpassed its 2009-10 FTES goals with a phenomenal load of 643 for the year. Spring 2010 FTES is up 6%, with 10% fewer sections compared to spring 2009. Spring load is up to 652. Unfunded FTES for this year is estimated at 624.
- 4. Next Meeting:** March 25th.

Coming up...

Friday, February 26

- Scenes from the Puppet World, Gallery, through March 20

Saturday, February 27

- Men's Baseball - Skyline vs. Mendocino, 11am

Tuesday, March 2

- Men's Baseball - Skyline vs. West Valley (Saratoga), 2pm

Thursday, March 4

- Stop the Education Cuts Rally, 11am, Quad
- Men's Baseball - Skyline vs. Chabot, 2pm

Do you have a suggestion?

One way to submit it is through our general **e-Suggestion Box**, via the hyperlink in the box below, or via the same box on the front page of our website at

<http://www.skylinecollege.edu/general/surveys/index.html>





Here is the **Website Redesign Project e-Suggestion Box**, for feedback on the new website



For suggestions specific to the **budget**, here is the link

For state level information on community colleges, see these websites:

- The Chancellor's Office in Sacramento: <http://www.cccco.edu/>
- The Community College League of California: <http://www.ccleague.org/>
- The Research and Planning Group: <http://www.rpgroup.org/>

Skyline Shines is archived at <http://www.skylinecollege.edu/facstaff/PresidentsOffice/skyshines/>

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